

Message Text

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ACTION IO-14

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 STRE-00 OIC-02 AF-10 ARA-10 EA-10
EUR-12 NEA-11 AGR-05 CEA-01 CIAE-00 COME-00
DODE-00 EB-08 FRB-03 H-01 INR-10 INT-05 L-03
LAB-04 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 CTME-00 AID-05 SS-15
STR-07 ITC-01 TRSE-00 ICA-11 SP-02 SOE-02 OMB-01
DOE-15 JUSE-00 DOTE-00 FMC-01 CG-00 DLOS-09
OES-07 /192 W

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TO SECSTATE WASHDC 0999

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DEPT PASS COMMERCE FOR FORMAN AND
TRAVAGLINI (COMMERCE AND KELLY (STR)

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: ECE
SUBJECT: MEETING OF ECE GOVERNMENT OFFICIAL RESPONSIBLE
FOR STANDARDIZATION POLICIES WEEK OF JUNE 12, 1978

1. MEETING WAS ATTENDED BY 25 ECE COUNTRIES, INCLUDING JAPAN, AND SIX INTERGOVERNMENTAL AND NONGOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATIONS, INCLUDING INTERNATIONAL ELECTRO-TECHNICAL COMMISSION. CHAIRMAN WAS V. TKATCHENCO, USSR, VICE-CHAIRMAN, A. STRECKER, FRG. MEETING COMPLETED REVIEW OF DEVELOPMENTS IN FIELD OF STANDARDIZATION SINCE THE FOURTH MEETING (1976) AND AGENDA ITEMS RELATING TO DEFINITIONS, HARMONIZATION OF STANDARDS, REVIEW OF THE ECE STANDARDIZATION LIST AND FUTURE WORK PROGRAM WITHOUT CONTROVERSY.

2. AGENDA ITEM 7, CONFORMITY CERTIFICATION (SEE ECE/
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STAND/18), SUBJECT OF EXTENDED DISCUSSION AND DELIBERATION BY SPECIAL WORKING GROUP. WG SET UP BY CHAIRMAN TO ATTEMPT TO SETTLE DIFFERENCES ARISING FROM DRAFT RECOMMENDATION FOR THE CREATION AND PROMOTION OF INTERNATIONAL CERTIFICATION ARRANGEMENTS.

3. DURING PLENARY USDEL MADE FORMAL STATEMENT OF OPPOSI-

TION TO LANGUAGE OF GUIDE 1.3 RELATING TO PARTICIPATION IN CERTIFICATION ARRANGEMENTS (STAND/R.26) AND REAFFIRMED U.S. COMMITMENT TO OPEN PARTICIPATION IN CERTIFICATION ARRANGEMENTS BY ANY COUNTRY WILLING TO ACCEPT RESULTS OF INSPECTION CARRIED OUT IN OTHER COUNTRIES IN ACCORDANCE WITH ESTABLISHED RULES PROVIDED COUNTRY COMMITS ITSELF TO FULFILL OBLIGATIONS AND IS ABLE TO DO SO. CANADIAN DEL SUPPORTED U.S. OPPOSITION TO PROVISION FOR ANY NEGOTIATING PROCESS AT A PRECEDENT TO GAINING ACCESS TO CERTIFICATION ARRANGEMENTS. FRENCH DEL SUPPORTED THE LANGUAGE ADOPTED IN APRIL WHICH HINGES THE RIGHT OF PARTICIPATION ON NEGOTIATIONS IF PARTIES TO ARRANGEMENT DEEM IT TO BE NECESSARY. CHAIRMAN APPOINTED WG OF WILLIAMS (UK), FORMAN (U.S.), BARET (FRANCE) SIMENSGAARD (DENMARK) AND DUBELL (AUSTRIA), BUT DUE TO WIDESPREAD INTEREST WG EXPANDED TO INCLUDE ABOUT 15 COUNTRIES PLUS EC OBSERVER (FAURE).

4. UK DELEGATE (ERIC WILLIAMS) CHAIRED WG AND MADE OPENING STATEMENT WHICH HE SAID WAS IN RESPONSE TO U.S. REQUEST FOR SPECIFIC EXAMPLES OF SITUATIONS WHICH GIVE RISE TO NEED FOR NEGOTIATIONS. HE CITED TWO EXAMPLES: (1) WHERE A FEW SMALL COUNTRIES HAVE CERTIFICATION ARRANGEMENT FOR LIMITED RANGE OF PRODUCTS, UNRESTRICTED ENTRY BY LARGE PRODUCERS WOULD EFFECTIVELY NULLIFY WORKABILITY OF ARRANGEMENTS; (2) WHERE A NUMBER LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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OF COUNTRIES HAVE CONCLUDED 15 OR 20 ARRANGEMENTS BASED ON A BALANCED SET OF ADVANTAGES FOR PARTICIPANTS, WITH SOME DISADVANTAGES ASSUMED BY SOME MEMBERS IN THE OVERALL INTEREST OF THE WHOLE PACKAGE UNRESTRICTED ENTRY BY LARGE COUNTRY SUCH AS U.S. OR USSR WITHOUT PRIOR NEGOTIATION AS TO BASIS OF ENTRY IN SOME CASES WOULD DESTROY ARRANGEMENTS. BERGHOLM (FINLAND) ADDED THAT NORDIC COUNTRIES HAVE ARRANGEMENTS FOR PRESSURE VESSELS, PHARMACEUTICALLY AND SHIPS EQUIPMENT, AND THAT THESE PROVIDE RECIPROCAL ADVANTAGES WHICH WOULD BE DESTROYED BY A POWERFUL NEW PARTICIPANT WHICH MIGHT BE INTERESTED IN JOINING ONLY ONE OF THE THREE ARRANGEMENTS USDEL POINTED OUT THAT IN THESE SITUATIONS THE NONMEMBER APPLICANT FOR PARTICIPATION IN THE ARRANGEMENT IS COMPLETELY WITHOUT RIGHTS UNTIL HE IS ACCEPTED AS A PARTICIPANT IN THE ARRANGEMENT SO THAT THE SO-CALLED NEGOTIATION IS REALLY A BARRIER WHICH COULD WELL BE INSURMOUNTABLE BECAUSE EXISTING MEMBERS ALONE SET THE CONDITIONS FOR THE NEGOTIATION. U.S. CITED AS APT PARALLEL PROFESSIONAL ASSOCIATIONS WHICH ADMIT NEW MEMBERS ON THEIR AGREEING TO ASSUME RIGHTS ANY OBLIGATIONS UNDER THE EXISTING RULE OF THE ASSOCIA-

TIONS, BUT WITHOUT REQUIRING EACH PROSPECTIVE ENTRANT TO NEGOTIATE TERMS FOR SUCH ADMISSION. EUROPEAN VIEW EXPRESSED BY BARET (FRANCE) IS THAT IT IS THE NATIONAL CERTIFICATION SYSTEMS THAT ARE THE REAL PROBLEM, THAT ANY NEW ARRANGEMENT HELPS TRADE BY REMOVING AN OBSTACLE BUT THAT CERTIFICATION ARRANGEMENTS CAN ONLY BE STARTED ON A LIMITED BASIS AND NONE WOULD BE STARTED IF THEY HAD TO BE ON A BASIS OF ABSOLUTE RIGHT OF ENTRY BY ANY PARTY. DISCUSSION CONTINUED IN THIS VEIN FOR TWO HOURS WITH SEVERAL ATTEMPTS TO FIND ACCEPTABLE WORDING FOR PARAGRAPH 1.3 PROVING ABORTIVE. SUBSTITUTE LANGUAGE WAS DEVELOPED WHICH EACH SIDE CONSIDERED SEPARATED; USDEL DISCUSSED WITH MTN DEL WALLAR AND THROUGH HIM WITH KELLY/STR; BOTH SIDES EVENTUALLY REJECTED SUBSTITUTE LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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PROPOSALS. USSR DEL MADE NO COMMENT UNTIL VERY END

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OF WG SESSION WHEN DEL SUPPORTED US POSITION. WILLIAMS REPORTED TO PLENARY AFTERNOON OF JUNE 13 THAT WG HAD BEEN UNSUCCESSFUL AND THAT SENSE OF WG PARTICIPANTS WAS THAT STAND/R.26 SHOULD BE SET ASIDE FOR ADOPTION

AT NEXT MEETING OF GROUP OF EXPERTS. IF AT THAT MEETING
AGREEMENT IS MARKED FOR ADOPTION OF LANGUAGE TO
REPLACE PARAGRAPH 1.3. IN THE MEANTIME, PAPERS WILL
BE PREPARED BY THE EC COUNTRIES AND BY U.S.-CANADA
REFLECTING THE CASES TO BE MADE FOR THE CONFLICTING
VIEWPOINTS. TENTATIVE MEETING DATES FOR G/E FEBRUARY AND
OCTOBER 1979, WITH PLENARY TENTATIVELY SCHEDULED FOR
APRIL 1980.VANDEN HEUVEL

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Message Attributes

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